# WESTMINSTER TRAFFIC COMMISSION MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING April 29, 2008

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Westminster Traffic Commission was called to order by Chairman Tracy on Tuesday, April 29, 2008, at 5:40 p.m. at the City Council Chambers, 8200 Westminster Boulevard, Westminster, California.

SALUTE TO FLAG

Vice Chairman Diep led the members of the audience in the Salute to the Flag.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Tracy, Diep, Crozier, Lopez, Tran Commissioners Absent: None

STAFF PRESENT

Adolfo Ozaeta, Civil Engineering Associate; Investigator Brackett, Westminster Police Department; Veronica Johnson, Secretary

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the Traffic Commission's regular meetings of January 29, 2008, February 20, 2008, and March 25, 2008, were approved (5-0).

ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED

The first item to be considered at this evening's meeting was T.C. 89-113, request to install all-way stop signs at the intersection of Melanie Lane and Via Fortuna.

T.C. 89-113 Melanie Lane and Via Fortuna

Mr. Ozaeta reminded the Commission that this item was presented at the March 22, 2008 Traffic Commission meeting. At the meeting, Mr. Brad Sublett had voiced his concern for pedestrian safety, mostly school aged children, in the area. The Commission voted to approve staff's recommendation to deny the installation of an all-way stop. The vote was 2-2 with Chairman Tracy being absent. Mr. Ozaeta suggested bringing the item back at the next Traffic Commission meeting when there was a full Commission. The Commission instructed staff to further investigate pedestrian activity in the area.

Mr. Ozaeta reiterated information from the previous Traffic Commission meeting. Mr. Ozaeta reminded the Commission that this intersection does not meet any of the warrants for all-way stop control according to the Manual of Uniform

Traffic Devices (MUTCD) guidelines in regards to accident history, traffic volume, and speed.

Mr. Ozaeta informed the Commission that staff had performed several site visitations. Pedestrian counts were collected during the morning and afternoon peak hours, paying special attention to the number of school aged pedestrians. Five school aged pedestrians were counted in the morning, and twelve in the afternoon.

## STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION

Staff's recommendation was to deny the request for all-way stop signs at the intersection of Melanie Lane and Via Fortuna.

Chairman Tracy opened this item up for discussion.

Mr. Denis Bilodeau, DKS Associates, spoke on the subject intersection. Mr. Bilodeau, who is working with Mr. Sublett, stated that while he agreed with staff's recommendation, he would like to see something done in the area to address speeding. His suggestions included a radar feedback trailer which would inform drivers of their speed as they are driving through the area, or a pedestrian activated push button crossing for the intersection.

Ms. Sharon Miller, Los Alisos Mobile Home Estates, spoke in favor of all-way stop signs. Her concern was for pedestrian safety in the area.

Mr. Brad Sublett, Los Alisos Ranch Company, spoke in favor of all-way stop signs. Mr. Sublett conveyed his understanding of staff's recommendation to deny his request for all-way stops. Mr. Sublett expressed his desire to see staff work with his traffic engineer in addressing the speed in the area.

Discussion ensued over the future development in the area and how it might affect the area in question.

Commissioner Tracy moved to approve staff's recommendation to deny the request for all-way stops at the intersection of Melanie Lane and Via Fortuna; seconded by Commissioner Crozier.

The motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

The second item to be considered at this evening's meeting was T.C. 73-100, staff's request to establish Engineering

#### Motion

## Vote

and Traffic Surveys for All American Way between Westminster Boulevard and 13<sup>th</sup> Street, and 13<sup>th</sup> Street between Beach Boulevard and All American Way.

T.C. 73-100 All American btwn Westminster & 13<sup>th</sup>, & 13<sup>th</sup> btwn Beach & All American

Mr. Ozaeta informed the Traffic Commission that the last Engineering and Traffic Surveys were adopted in 2004. The subject segments were not part of the 2004 Engineering and Traffic Survey. Staff had received several complaints about speeding in the Civic Center area.

Mr. Ozaeta explained that although the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile was above the posted speed limit of 25 miles per hour, the 2008 California Vehicle Code allows for the establishment of the speed limits to reflect roadside conditions not readily apparent to the driver. In the Civic Center, along with the public buildings and the recent additions of the Westminster Rose Center and Coastline College, there are also multiple driveway locations and high volume pedestrian crosswalks. Investigator Brackett stated that there are seven driveway locations on 13<sup>th</sup> Street between All American Way and Beach Boulevard.

Staff informed the Traffic Commission that through the adoption of the speed surveys on All American Way and 13<sup>th</sup> Street, the Police Department will be able to use radar equipment to enforce the posted speed limit on these segments.

## STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION

Staff's recommendation was to approve the Engineering and Traffic Surveys for All American Way between Westminster Boulevard and 13<sup>th</sup> Street, and 13<sup>th</sup> Street between Beach Boulevard and All American Way.

Chairman Tracy opened this item up for discussion and no one wished to speak.

**MOTION** 

Motion was made by Vice Chairman Diep to approve staff's recommendation to approve the Engineering and Traffic Surveys for All American Way between Westminster Boulevard and 13<sup>th</sup> Street, and 13<sup>th</sup> Street between Beach Boulevard and All American Way; seconded by Commissioner Tran.

**VOTE** 

The motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

**NEW BUSINESS** 

There were no "New Business" items presented to the

Commission at tonight's meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS** 

There were no "Old Business" items presented to the

Commission at tonight's meeting.

INFORMATION AND REPORTS

There were no "Information and Reports" items presented to

the Commission at tonight's meeting.

ORAL

**COMMUNICATIONS** No one spoke during "Oral Communications" at tonight's

meeting.

WRITTEN

COMMUNICATIONS

Chairman Tracy noted the receipt of a fax from a concerned citizen voicing their opposition to all-way stops for Melanie

Lane and Via Fortuna, T.C. 89-113.

ITEMS COMMISSIONERS/ STAFF MAY WISH TO DISCUSS

Mr. Ozaeta reminded the Commission of the upcoming

Traffic Commissioners Workshop on May 10, 2008.

**ADJOURNMENT** 

There being no further business to come before the Commission at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 6:20

p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marwan Youssef

Public Works Director/City Engineer

By: Veronica Johnson

Secretary